being a State subject, the schemes for providing safe drinking water to rural areas are implemented by the State Governments. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial assistance under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme.

As per the information furnished by the State Government, out of 69732 rural habitations in Andhra Pradesh, 55056 are fully covered, 14676 are partially covered and there are no Not Covered habitations. Further, 14260 habitations are affected due to quality problem in drinking water. District wise details are not maintained at the Central Government level.

It is proposed to cover all rural habitations in the country with the facility of safe drinking water by April 2004, subject to availability of funds.

Techniques for water harvesting

868. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to devise techniques for water harvesting to aid farming;

(b) if so the measures taken in this regard;

(c) the amount expected to be incurred; and

(d) the funds proposed to be allocated during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) and (b) Various rainwater harvesting techniques have been traditionally used in all parts of the country. Innovations according to local conditions are constantly made by the farming community. The Departments of Land Resources and Drinking Water Supply in the Ministry of Rural Development have been supporting construction of water harvesting structures as an important component of their watershed development and drinking water supply schemes.

(c) and (d) Water harvesting structures is one of the components of Integrated Watershed Development projects which is to be taken up in accordance with the local situation and need. Hence, no separate budget allocation is made specifically for this component.

Assistance to Karnataka to revive rural water supply schemes

869. SHRI K. B. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :